

The Eastern Echo's

Around the Town

YPSILANTI



Photo by Adam Sparkes

Inside...



Bars

From Theo's to Aubree's, Ypsilanti offers some of the best pubs around.



Eats

The amazing La Fiesta Mexicana is just one of the many places to grab a bite to eat in Ypsilanti.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
home of...



*Episcopal Campus Ministry
@ Eastern Michigan University*



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&

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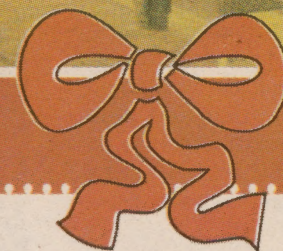
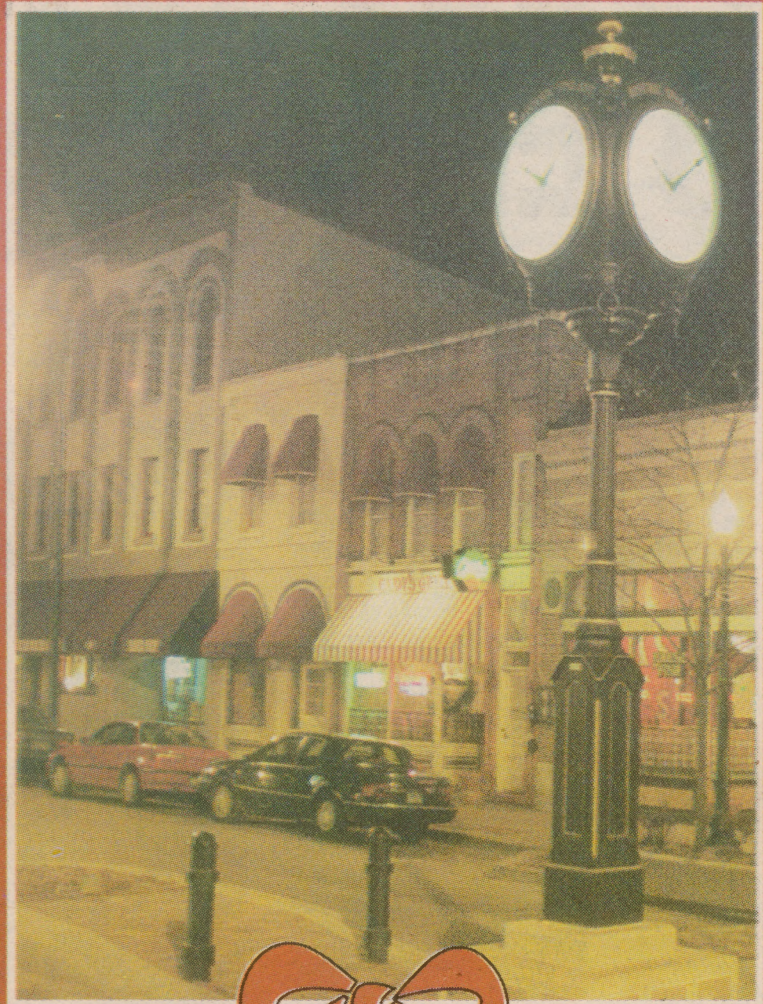
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Depot Town plays Host to EMU Appreciation Days

*Event will take place
November 24-26*

Depot Town. It's only a few blocks from campus but most students aren't sure how to get there. Some remember going there during their first week as freshmen. Others may have eaten there when parents have come to town. Some have been to the bars or heard about them. And although the area's just minutes from campus, to much of the EMU community, Depot Town is an undiscovered gem.

Located mostly on East Cross Street, Historic Depot Town claims a half dozen eateries and pubs plus a dozen retailers. Authentic 19th Century buildings—preserved or restored to their original appearance—house most of them, many with apartments in upper stories. The businesses range from hair salons to generous gift and home décor stores to popular restaurants and bars like Aubree's and Sidetrack.

All businesses are independently owned with hands-on owner management. This adds up to a shopping-dining quarter that's loaded with charm and friendly ambience.

Walking east from Campus, Depot Town's about a block east of Huron Street, reached either directly from Cross Street or the "back way" from Forest just past the Huron River. Driving's an easy shot east on Washtenaw to Huron, following signs to E. Cross.

Thirty years ago the Depot Town area was in sad disrepair. Persistence, hard work and the ingenuity of Depot Town restaurateurs and business owners over the past decades have turned the area around to one of the most popular destinations for local residents as well as visitors from Ann Arbor and other area towns.

Currently Depot Town suffers from a Michigan Department of Transportation decision some years ago that made Cross Street one-way west past campus, leaving Depot Town, just to the east, off the beaten track for the EMU population.

In order to make themselves more visible to the EMU community and to thank those who already frequent the area, Depot Town merchants are hosting EMU Appreciation Days. November 24-26, Monday - Wednesday before Thanksgiving, most shops and restaurants are offering discounts of 20% to EMU students and staff who show their ID.

"We thought we'd help the campus community with Christmas shopping before exams and papers set in," said Sandee French, president of the DTA. "Depot Town's an incredible place to shop—you can get everything from glass, jewelry, apparel and home accents to candles, Vera Bradley bags, antiques and vintage clothing. We've got a great Christmas store, a food co-op, a teacher's shop, a coin shop—and it's all unique and different—most of it very affordable. There are great places to eat when you're done shopping—everything from deli fare and pizza to full dinners. The EMU community can't do better anywhere around."



Most Depot Town stores are offering 20% off to EMU students and staff Nov. 24-26.

File Photo/Eastern Echo

Theo's Doors

Local bar, family has served the EMU community for more than 20 years

Special Report
BY JEFFREY MICK

For over 23 years, Theodoor's has used and enjoyed the 'Greek Bar' moniker that has been dubbed upon them. But Theo's (as it is more commonly known) is and does offer a bit more to the average college student and the average street Joe.

While the brother and sister team of George and Cerene Tangelakis bought the license in mid-March of 1979, Theo's did not official open until September 5. The doors have been open and busy ever since.

While Cerene was finishing her MS in education at EMU, George bounced around a bit, attending several schools, and was a part of the "Woodstock" generation. They literally grew up with the EMU community, as their father Ted Tangelakis has owned Ted's Campus Drugs on the corner of West Cross and Normal Streets since June of 1946. George remembers when EMU was known as Michigan Normal College.

Originally known as Hungry Charlie's, a New York City based burger and beer joint with several locations at other MAC campuses, the business eventually folded in the mid 60's. The establishment then became the Eastern Stables for several years and was successful until the late 70's when the previous owner had to put the license up for sale as a result of health problems. Hearing from their father that the license was available, and having previous experience through out the '60s with two Elias Brother Big Boy's Restaurants in Detroit, the brother-sister team decided to purchase the business. The rest is history.

The name Theore/Theodoor's came about as a result of the name being a common fixture in the Tangelakis family.

"(Theodore is a) common name for males in my family. My dad is Theodore George, I'm a George Theodore, my nephew is Theodore Michael-get the idea?," quipped owner George Tangalkis. "Hey, everybody was into nicknames in the 80's, so Theo's stuck."

Along with the "best Hot Wings in the area," Theo's also offers a menu of other

great, basic bar food, and different nightly bar promotions or themes. Weekly specials include quarter beer night on Mondays and Thursday, karaoke on Tuesdays, beer pong and Long Island specials on Wednesday and Ladies' Night on Thursdays. Weekends offer a variety of other drinking specials.

While small in appearance, Theo's has a big city club feeling about it, especially later at night when the crowd arrives to dance to top 40 hip-hop tunes all night long. Get there early, as it is the place to be and where a good night can require a wait in line to get in a club that averages between 350 and 400 through the front door. The crowd that Theo's draws is a mixture of college based students.

"(Our crowd is) 99% college. The mix is 85% plus EMU and the balance is U-of-M, WCC, and such. Furthermore, our staff represents a wide cross section of Eastern's students- Greeks, former varsity athlete's, and working undergrads just trying to get the rent money," said Tangelakis. "Literally, thousands of EMU's past and present Greeks have passed through our doors. And our homecoming and St. Patrick's Day celebrations are legendary."

While they don't charge cover on a regular night, Theo's does allow students 18 and up to enter, but they must have a current college picture ID with them on the weekends. This policy helps to eliminate older high-school students from getting in. Otherwise, special event nights generally require a small cover if you're over 21, and a larger one if you're under.

As for business, Tangelakis said that things really couldn't be better. "Given the general economic conditions in southeast Michigan, business is good. Our location, at the end of West Cross Street, somewhat separates us from downtown (or) Depot Town. We are really the only bar and grill across the street from the campus."

Theo's is located at 705 West Cross Street, right across from the EMU campus. They are open Monday through Saturday from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. Call 734-485-6720 for more information on special or check out their Web site at www.theosbar.com.



Joe Faraoni/Eastern Echo

Theo's is owned by a brother and sister: George and Cerene Tangelakis since Sept. 5, 1979. Their father, Ted, owns Ted's Campus Drugs on the corner of West Cross and Normal.

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*Bookstore has
served EMU since
January 2001*

Special Report
By JEFFREY MICK

While not yet very old to the Ypsilanti area, Mike's Bookstore is still a much needed and appreciated business to the EMU community.

Owned by Mike Root and wife Loreen Dwyer, Mike's has been serving the EMU students and faculty since January of 2001.

Root opened his doors after being store manager of

"We love EMU and the University community."

-Mike Root
owner

Ned's Books for eight years.

"We love EMU and the University community," Root said. "Our location is very strong but we have space limitations because of the unique buildings we operate out of."

Previously before the bookstore was there, the building housed both a gas station and a dry cleaning business.

Mike's Bookstore can generally provide any student with the books that they need for term, usually carrying over 2,500 titles in stock per semester. At the beginning of the term, Mike's always offer something special in the way of entertainment to the book-buying students, whether they are browsing, shopping or waiting in line. Local magicians, jugglers and the EMU Jazz Band have been a few of the featured acts that the store has featured.

Besides having a very experi-

enced, knowledgeable and friendly staff, Mike's Bookstore will also buy your used textbooks back every day that they are open. Extra cash earned from returned book sales is covered with "Mike's Dollars."

"Mike's Dollars are like real dollars that you can use in the store towards future purchases," said Root. "Say you sell \$100 of books back to the store. We give you the \$100 back in cash with a \$10 Mike's Money voucher that is good for anything in the store in the future. We enjoy and take great pride in providing a service to the faculty, staff and students. Students pay a ton of money to get an education. We believe they deserve a great service at the most economical price."

Mike's Bookstore is located at 901 Washtenaw, right across from the water tower. Their hours are Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., with special late night hours offered at the beginning of the semester. Call 734-487-8700 for more information, or go to their website at mikesbookstore.com.

Phil Maza/Eastern Echo

Nate Rogers, a cashier at Mike's Book Store, is always ready to help out a customer.



Tower Inn



Phil Maza/Eastern Echo

The Staff of Tower Inn: (Back) Laura Bernhard, Jesse Hernandez, Julio Medeles (Front) Owner Rois Savvides, Elon St. James, Jill Holder.

Eastern graduate finds joy in owning local business

Special Report
BY JEFFREY MICK

Rois Savvides has had Tower Inn's history in his blood for a while and never even really knew it.

"I came to EMU in 1984. I graduated in 1990 with a BBA in management. I met my wife Nathalie (the Tower Inn's real boss) at the library at Eastern. We had our first date at the Tower Inn."

They bought the restaurant in 1997.

"I love the business," said Savvides. "I could never imagine doing anything else."

The Tower Inn is one of Ypsilanti's older and more established restaurants, serving the area and college community for almost 30 years. The diner was originally named after the water tower, which is one block away.

Because of the variety of their fine cuisine, a big part of the Tower Inn's business comes from catering.

"We cater a lot of weddings, baptisms, rehearsal dinners, and lun-

cheons at the University. We catered during Presidents Clinton's visit to the Convocation Center," said Savvides. That, though, is not all that they have to offer.

Knowing that the times are difficult right now, Savvides and Chef Jesse Hernandez have worked to keep the menu as economical for both students and university staff. Added just this year is the Pizza-and-Pasta buffet. Offered every Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., this all-you-can-eat treat is a very quick and affordable great meal value. EMU students, faculty and staff have voted Tower Inn's pizza best at Eastern since 1998.

"We make our pizza dough everyday at our restaurant, seven days a week," Savvides said. "Unlike other restaurants, we make everything here."

Another new service being offered is Tower Inn's full menu delivery service. Any item, such as calamari, steaks, sandwiches or (of course) pizza can be ordered and delivered to your dorm or your office. An additional small fee is added on if the order is being delivered outside of the greater campus area.

With a new emphasis on food quality, appearance and current popular food trends, Savvides and Hernandez took the time to redo the menu. New food, drink and special items help represent the restaurant's new image. Beside the calamari, shrimp stuffed with crabmeat on a sun dried tomato fettuccine and spinach-feta stuffed salmon are a few of the spectacular dishes the restaurant has to offer. Also to be mentioned and tried is the 10-ounce steak dinner, which is cooked to

your liking, tableside. The Tower Inn also has a full bar with six draft beers including two regularly rotated micro beers. Their current drink special is the 34-ounce Tower Mug for three dollars.

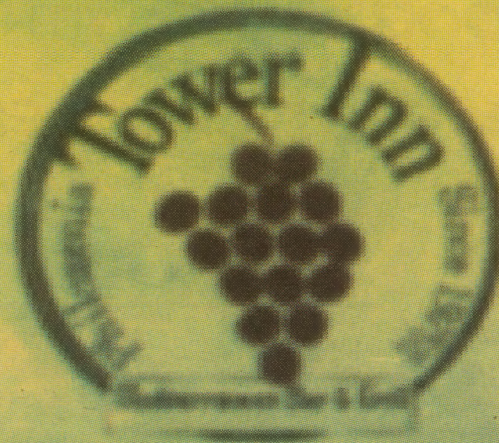
While small in a family kind of way, Tower Inn employs 42 people, most of whom are EMU students. A lot of the family orientated mentality shows in the restaurant's staff, and the staff's relationship with their customers, past, present and future.

"We are a close family and we have a lot of kids who have been with us a lot of years. It is very sad, but yet a happy occasion when our employees graduate and move on," said Savvides. "We keep in touch with many of them. We are very happy every time we get a letter or a phone call from our past employees, and we are especially happy when they come and visit."

Living and working here have never been a problem for Savvides, though.

"I've lived in Ypsilanti for 20 years. I love the city and the University. At Eastern, I had the best times of my life. I feel like I've been a student here for twenty years. It is especially nice when some of my professors visit me at the restaurant."

The Tower Inn is located at 701 W. Cross Street, across from Boone Hall and Pease Auditorium. They are open seven days a week from 10 a.m. until midnight for dine in, take out or delivery. Call 734-487-4000 to place an order, or visit their website at www.towerinn.com for a copy of the menu, specials and more. All major credit cards are accepted.




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La Fiesta Mexicana

Fresh, authentic, delicious: only in Ypsilanti can one find a meal this original

Nestled snugly in the near ruins of Cross Street lays a preverbal diamond in the ruff.

La Fiesta Mexicana has long called home the now commercial ruins of Cross Street near Eastern Michigan. Owned and operated by Michelle Roman, La Fiesta has remained part of the Ypsi/EMU community for almost 12 years.

Although the location may be intimidating, it is in no way a reflection of the treasure found inside. Not only has La Fiesta avoided the Cross Street plague, but it has also flourished where others have died.

Roman was raised in Guadalajara, Mexico, the land of Mariachi, tequila and Mexican favorites. Her father was always in the food business and an excellent cook. This is probably where she developed her taste for food.

"I like flavor, not spicy," said Roman, as she reflected on style of food found at La Fiesta. "Some places give you all flame, no flavor."

The restaurant is so dedicated to authentic Mexican flavor that the salsa served with every meal is the handmade recipe of Roman's mother. Michelle says that in 12 years they have not been able to find any authentic Mexican produce in the area.

They travel to Chicago every two weeks in order purchase ingredients for their food. Roman insists that it makes a big difference to buy true Mexican avocados and peppers. Beans and rice are made with vegetarians in mind, as they are cooked in canola oil rather than lard.

There is no walk-in cooler at La Fiesta. This is because nothing is frozen in bulk in order to assure freshness.

"When you come here some mornings you will hear someone in the kitchen. Wham! Wham!, They are pounding the guacamole," said Roman with a smile.

She is very proud that everything at her restaurant comes entirely from scratch. She does, however, admit that tamales are only made once a week. This is because real tamales take an excruciatingly long time to make.

"In Mexico whole families must participate in making the tamales," Roman said.

With all the great food around Roman somehow picks her favorite, and it is chile relleno. This dish along with mouth-watering delights such as potato tacos, pineapple and cocoa nut tamales and Mexican chocolate (brown creamy heaven) makes choosing La fiesta Mexicana for a meal a no-brainer.

La Fiesta Mexicana is more than just great food. It is an exquisite atmosphere and attitude.

Originally opening to feed the student population, Roman never expected to be catering as casually as she is to a crowd that predominantly comes from Ann Arbor. Yet, this atmosphere that has occurred really allows for La Fiesta to share a little bit a Mexico with its patrons.

"This is not like a business, it is like our dining room."

**-Michelle Roman
Owner**



File Photo/Eastern Echo

A steaming plate of coconut and pineapple tamales and a pot of Mexican Chocolate wait to be devoured. La Fiesta Mexicana is dedicated to serving fresh and authentic Mexican food.

It's mostly EMU faculty who stop by, as well as people from both St. Joseph and U-M hospitals. Still, Roman hopes to see more students and she offers specials for them.

It is a family atmosphere at La Fiesta. The entire staff is related and Roman greets all of her guests as if they were old friends visiting her home.

"This is not like a business, it is like our dining room," Roman explained. "It is so rewarding to walk by [a table] and hear comments about the food."

Chef Guillermo Aleman explained that cooking like a family has always been in his mind.

"I had a family of nine and we loved my grandmother's flour tortillas. My grandmother would be chasing us out of the kitchen just trying to keep up with us," Aleman said.

It is this all to uncommon attitude that makes La Fiesta such a special place. Even when faced with opportunities to grow or relocate, La Fiesta has held on to its values.

"If we expand then we must change, but we want to do it in such a way that we don't lose control of our quality," assured Roman, who has had offers by investors in the past.

Roman refuses to set aside the quality of her food or the authenticity of her menu.

"This is the way it is," Roman insisted. "It is going to be this way. It is not going to change."

La Fiesta is a gift to both Ypsilanti and EMU. Catering is offered along with La Fiesta's long list of pleasures. It is a place that is so blatantly uncommercialized that it's refreshing. It has its own unique charisma that gently blends simplicity and elegance.

The mariachi music perfectly fits the atmosphere that the walls themselves seem to sing. Roman meets the customers at the door less like a hostess and more like a gracious auntie at Sunday supper. Finally, if smiling and laughing is a factor when choosing a place to dine then La Fiesta leaves no decision to be made.

-Eastern Echo Archives (Adam Sparkes)

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Sticks and Aubree's serve Ypsi

*Complex has seen
Grammy winners,
The Stanley Cup*

Special Report
BY JEFFREY MICK

Aubree's Saloon and co-partner bar have had Grammy Award winners play music there, as well as being able to hoist up the Cup. And yes, I do mean the Stanley Cup that the Red Wings won a few years back. They still remember that night there.

"The Cup was placed in the center of the room and fans from all over the state were not only able to see the Cup, but also have their picture taken next to it," said Sandee French, co-owner (with her husband Bill) of Aubree's and Stick's. "(To this day) each time a goal is scored, a special drink is offered to the fans and the cheers can be heard across the street."

Sandee and Bill French met on the campus of EMU in 1968 and have been the owners of the bars since 1971. The building itself has gone through a few changes since it was built in 1870, but has almost always been a tavern.

"Back in the 60's, it was the Alibi Bar. When we bought it we wanted to give it a new beginning. The first floor, Aubree's, was always a tavern serving the locals in town. We recently expanded into the next building and constructed a horseshoe bar as well as expanded our kitchen. Our menu offers much more than a typical bar menu and is available on both floors and for delivery and pick-up."

Aubree's offers regular delivery and a special delivery package for members of the Ambassador Club. If signed up to the Ambassador Club, you can have a six-pack of beer or a pack of cigarettes delivered to you with your food.

Sticks, the pool-hall part of Aubree's upstairs, has seen even more changes. Once known as Aubree's Second Floor, the upper level hosted some of the best blues acts in the area.

"We had top-notch entertainers from Detroit, Chicago, New Orleans, and Nashville," said French. "We even had Grammy Award winners play here. It was a small club, so our guests could be close to the entertainers and interact with them."

Distance proved to be a problem though, and the decision was made to feature something that would attract a more local clientele. They went from three tables to a more inviting and fun atmosphere of six, Sticks came into being. Also constructed was the outdoor Tiki Bar that is a summer hot spot to go and is accessible only through Sticks.

There is never a cover charge during the day and anyone, including families are encouraged to enjoy the sports bar environment, food and pizza specials before 9 p.m. Aubree's does have over 30 television's through out the building, as well as NTN games, pinball, darts and videos games. After 9 p.m., they become a 21-and-over club. As a result of the offerings and variety in venues and entertainment, Aubree's attracts a good mix of crowds on each floor.

"We have different crowds on the different floors. Sticks tends to be college and graduates," said French. "Aubree's is a bit older crowd who is interested in a little mellower environment...(and) the easily viewed TVs make Aubree's a steady business all day long. As for sales, I can proudly say that we've been known to sell more beer than any other location in four counties. We are a 'happening' place to be."

Aubree's and Sticks are located on 39 E. Cross Street in the heart of Depot Town, less than a mile from the campus. Their business hours are from 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon until 2 a.m. on Sundays. Call 734-483-1870 for information about food or drink specials, or go to www.Aubrees.com.



Phil Maza/Eastern Echo

Aubree's is located on 39 E. Cross Street in the heart of Depot Town. The bar saw the Stanley Cup after one of the Red Wings' victories and when the Red Wings score a goal, a special drink is offered to all.

Welcome to Quinn's

Three stores combine to form one giant experience

"Come over. Walk in. It'll take your breath away."

That's the way Quinn's Essentials ads read in the holiday season. And they aren't kidding. You walk into Quinn's historic storefront in Ypsilanti's Depot Town—three storefronts to be exact—decked with lights and greenery, and suddenly you're surrounded by Christmas.

Christmas trees, more precisely. Not trees you see in most stores or homes. But awesome, magnificent creations that, well . . . take your breath away. There's a lodge tree . . . peacock tree . . . Victorian tree . . . Americana . . . flamingos & parrots . . . wine lovers . . . Celtic . . . a 1950s silver tree with retro ornaments. Standing on the midst of the trees, taking in the scented candles and potpourri, you are suddenly in the holiday mood even if exams or papers are hanging over your head.

Owners MaryBeth and Ray Strassel are celebrating their fifth season on this Depot Town corner, well known to Christmas aficionados even before the Strassels opened Quinn's Essentials in May 1999. The previous store, Remington-Walker, had also drawn holiday lovers.

When that store closed in January '99, the Strassels, who reside a block west of campus, satisfied a lifelong dream of owning their own business. "We dropped out of life to start a store," laughs MaryBeth, a former English teacher who worked for several years in a composition help center on EMU's campus. Before Quinn's, Ray was using his MBA to manage area businesses, mainly in transportation. "I

never dreamed one day I'd be in small retail," he muses. The two divide the labors.

MaryBeth does most of the buying and marketing. "We have to work to shake preconceptions of this town. Once we get folks to our store—a special challenge since one way Cross Street whisks students and staff west—and get them to the shops here, once they eat at a Depot Town restaurant or pub, and get used to free parking, they're hooked. When students do find us, they love the store. In fact, one group of students said Quinn's should be renamed 'Best Place To Bring Your Mom.'"

Ray handles finances and carpentry. "This building dates back to 1859—the Follett House Hotel—the finest between Detroit and Chicago back then," he informs. "That means no level floors and a fair amount of maintenance." "But lots of charm!" inserts his partner-spouse.

Charm indeed. Comprised of three separate storefronts joined by interior doorways and totaling 3600 square feet, Quinn's has high brick walls and pressed-tin ceilings, diligently painted by Ray. Warm colors from stained-glass windows flood the Old World Santas, graceful Nativity sets, and brightly colored glass plates and bowls.

"There's no place comparable to Quinn's in the area—not even close," says an Ann Arbor shopper. "I come in frequently—it's always unique and never the same. Another remarks, "We travel a l over and love to visit little shops . . . but most of the time we back right out the door because everything looks *the same*. But not this store—*everything's* interesting and unusual."

"Everything" includes jewelry, candles, scarves, cards, home accents, wallpaper, baby gifts, fragrance, and even Swedish foam mattresses and pillows—definitely not short on gift possibilities. Even though most of the store appeals to women, there are excellent guy gifts too—and all departments have affordable things for people

on a budget.

"People comment all the time that everything here is so unique and well-priced," says MaryBeth. "I'm not sure why, but I think we've been fortunate to identify colorful, appealing offerings that brighten up your home or wardrobe, yet don't break the bank."

It's also important to the Strassels that Quinn's be an inclusive store. African-American angels and Santas share shelves with their more traditional counterparts. This year Quinn's has added menorahs and dreidels. "We don't sell these items to be PC, but because it's the right thing to do. And we don't skimp on the original Christmas story either. Nativity sets, children's books and ornaments celebrating the first Christmas are essential here."

She credits much to her team of friends/employees, in particular interior designer Susanne Ross: "Her incredible flair for merchandising makes what I buy look terrific year round and utterly magical at Christmas."

Customers chat amiably with one another in line. One laden with an armload of greenery and wreaths raves, "You won't find anything this realistic or this different *anyplace*. Quinn's' Christmas trees, garlands, berries—they're the best. And everyone here is so helpful. It's a nightmare at this time of year most places, but I actually *come* here to feel good. We wouldn't shop *anyplace* else."

Come over. Walk in. Ask anybody. It'll take your breath away.

-Contributed to the Eastern Echo

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TO GET TO QUINN'S /DEPOT TOWN BY WALKING: EAST ON CROSS TO 2ND BLOCK PAST HURON. OR EAST ON FOREST PAST HURON. RIGHT ON MARKET PLACE AFTER BRIDGE, BEFORE RR TRACKS. QUINN'S IS ON THE CORNER OF RICE & E. CROSS STREET.
DRIVING: TAKE WASHTENAW EAST 'TIL IT ENDS. LEFT THEN RT. TO E. CROSS. QUINN'S IS ON FIRST LEFT CORNER.

A r o u n d T h e T o w n

1. Sticks & Aubree's
39 Cross St.
734.483.8888

2. Quinn's Essentials
19 E. Cross St.
734.544.4690
www.quinnsessentials.com

3. Mike's Bookstore
901 Washtenaw
734.487.8700
www.mikesbookstore.com

4. Tower Inn
703 W. Cross St.
www.towerinncafe.com

5. LaFiesta
529 W. Cross St.
734.483.1666

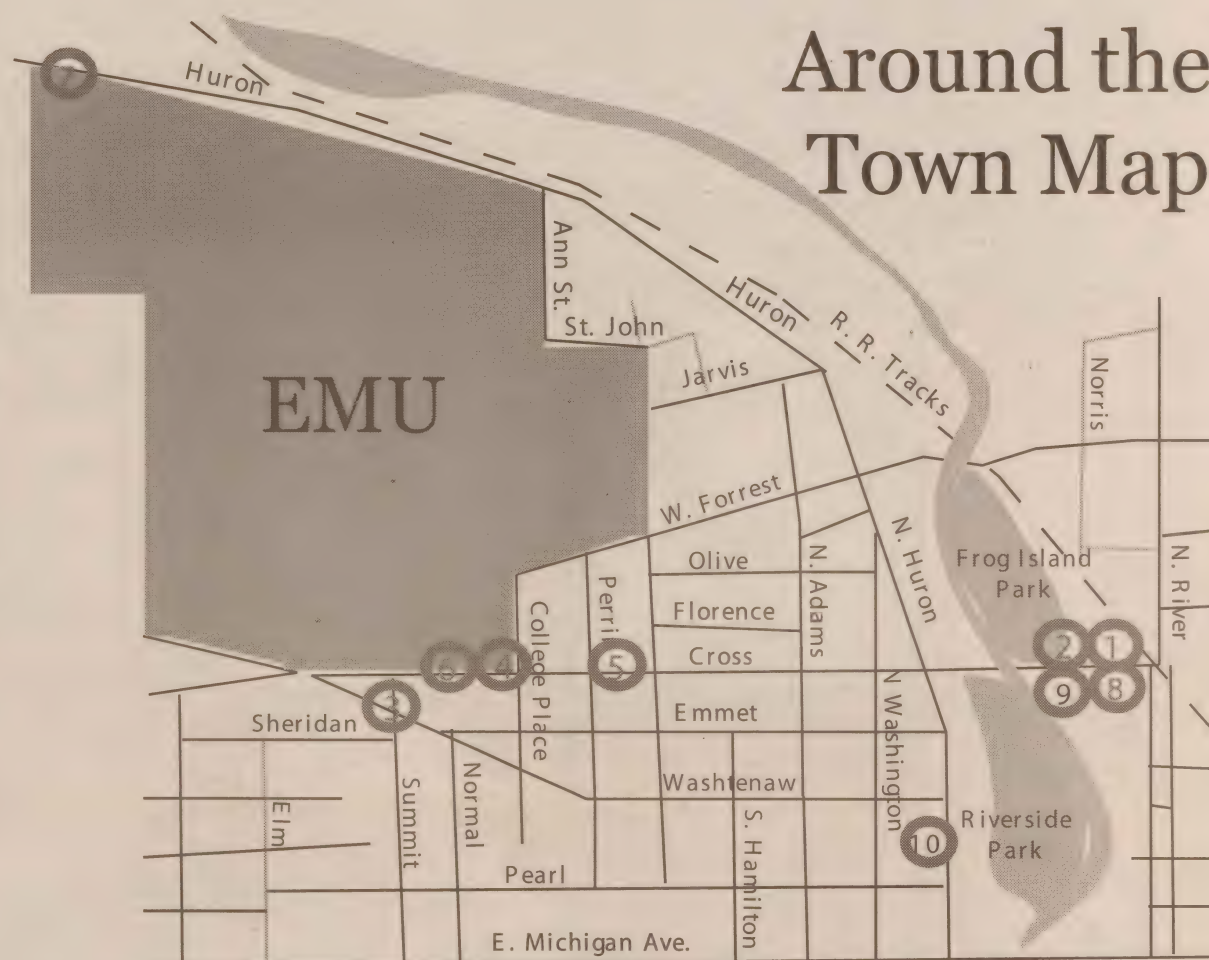
6. Theo's Bar and Grill
705 W. Cross St.

7. Campus Book & Supply
1078 Huron River Dr.
734.485.2369
www.campusbooksupply.com

8. Sidetracks
56 E. Cross St.
www.sidetrackbarandgrill.com

9. Cady's Grill
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Letter from Keith R. Peters, President and CEO of the Ypsi Chamber of Commerce

I serve on the EMU College of Education Advisory Board.

The Downtown area of Ypsilanti including the Uptown and Depot Town areas are improving rapidly. We are becoming more and more proud of the areas and they will continue to improve.

These areas are working more and more together and will continue to do so. These three areas combined will be the Downtown area of the greater Ypsilanti Area.

The Central City for the Ypsilanti Area. With Business, Shopping and restaurants. Combined they will draw people downtown to a wonderful central community.

A vibrant community with continued diversity and continued reasons to be here. I believe that the place to be in Washtenaw County will be the Ypsilanti Area during the next ten years.

The big picture includes many new jobs and affordable housing along with a great sense of community. We will balance these with preservation of park lands and a great opportunity for recreation.

Local business if they plan well and market well and make their businesses attractive and inviting will see a very good future.

Water Street is going to take off in 2004 with demolition and construction. What excitement there will be as more people come and live downtown.

We are on the verge of seeing many hundreds of new

jobs created. Veridian, General Motors, Visteon, Hyundai, Bosel International and many more. They are coming to Ypsilanti with enthusiasm.

The event of the Winter is on January 23, 2004. The Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce, POST HOLIDAY GALA, at the Morris Lawrence Building, from 5:00 until 10:00 PM. Saturday Night Fever will be the theme, and you are all invited. You won't want to miss it.

Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce
310 West Michigan Avenue Suite 101
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
(734) 482-4920

Our web home page is www.ypsichamber.org. In January 2004, this will become the PORTAL to the greater Ypsilanti Community. This will be kicked off at our January 6th, First Tuesday Breakfast at 7:30 AM at the Morris Lawrence. Come to this event and look at the future of Ypsilanti.

Dick Blouse, President of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce recently said at a statewide Michigan Chamber event that if you want to see how a mid sized chamber should work look at the Board and Staff of the Ypsilanti Chamber. This is because of hard work and a great community.

What's up downtown?



Phil Maza/Eastern Echo

Sidetrack, a bar located only a few blocks from campus in Depot Town, is owned by Linda French. The building has been a bar since 1850.

Special Report
BY JEFFREY MICK

Linda French, owner of Sidetrack, describes her typical crowd of customers as, "a little student, a lot of townies, blue collar union guys, professors, priests, housewives, professionals, lawyers and other misfits."

Sidetrack has been attracting this unique and friendly kind of crowd since 1979, and possibly even longer. The interior of Sidetrack is old and rustic but still bright and inviting, holding memories of times and trains that have passed through the area. The bar also hosts three-outdoors patio's that are always busy when open on warm, summer nights. Located on a corner in Depot Town,

Sidetrack is only a few blocks from campus with a large, well-lit parking lot in back. The building itself has been a bar since 1850, except during prohibition. Its current name is attributed to the fact that the building is almost on top of the railroad track, especially on the open east side of the building. Good drink and food flow as frequent as the daily trains that still role by.

"Our specialty has always been burgers. We have been rated the best burger west of Detroit," said French. "We run daily homemade specials everyday along with homemade soups, we serve homemade meatloaf, and roast turkey, fresh fish and we boost a **great** vegetarian selection of items."

Also **owned** by French and located right next to Sidetrack is Frenchie's Party Room, a free-for-rent old fashion pub style room that people can use for



Phil Maza/Eastern Echo

Sidetrack offers two happy hours a day, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. until clos. They offer 25 ounce drafts of any of the 16 beers they sell.

Sidetrack in Depot Town has much to offer Ypsi

their parties. The room has been host to live music, political events, small theatre productions and poetry slams. French used to have an antique shop in the store front before turning into a blossoming, neighboring business. "French is the name I was born with, so Frenchie's made sense for a name for the place," she said.

Aside from great food and a gracious environment, Sidetrack also offers a fine bar selection of liquors, bottle and draft beers and a twice-a-day happy hour. Between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. until close, Sidetracks offers 25 ounce drafts of any of their 16 draft beers including Bell's, Frog Island, Bass and Guinness to name a few for as low as \$2.95. "We have the best happy hour in the county," said French.

Sidetrack's and Frenchie's are currently in the

process of restoring the entire upstairs so that it spans both establishments. The expansion would allow the venue, French said, to offer "more entertainment and game."

Even on a slower night, Sidetrack's draws a good crowd of regulars and new comers. The food, drink and friendliness have always been a very good draw for this very good business. When asked if business was good right now, French said, "Yes, I feel very fortunate."

Sidetrack's and Frenchie's are located at 54 and 56 E. Cross Street in Depot Town. Their hours are noon until midnight on Sundays, and 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call 734-483-1035 for more information, or check out their Web site at www.SidetrackBarandgrill.com for food specials and upcoming events.



**Happy Hours: 4 - 6pm
and 10pm - 1am**

Monday - Thursday

\$2.95 - 25 oz Drafts

Sunday

same great Happy Hour

Noon - Midnight

\$2.00 - Martinis

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Sports
EMU's baseball team finds their way to the MAC finals. Find out how they fared.

Dimensions
Colling all freshmen! Learn how to avoid living the dog's life, while living at EMU.



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Welcome

Aug. 29, Sept. 3, 2003
Volume 109 Issue 1
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Mars!

As in Volta. Oh, and there is that planet.



Be amazed by the power of Earth's closest planet, as it draws as close to earth as it has been in tens of thousands of years. Read more about this cool planet on News, page 15. Not to be out done by some floating orb, the Mars Volta has got something heavenly as well. It's their music. Read more in Dimensions.



Arson in Ypsilanti

INDEX	News	Dimensions
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	Summer of Rock.....5
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	Sports.....11
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	Truck.....9
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	MAC Champ.....7
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	Community.....7,8
	Arson in Ypsilanti.....3	Around the Town.....7,8

Will football forge or fail this year?

Team picks up new assistant coach, Woodruff has high hopes for new season



Inside... Sports
Get your sports fix, from the Eagles' season opener to the upcoming season. Page 7.

Eastern Echo
Tuesday
Aug. 29, 2003
Volume 109 Issue 1
www.easternecho.com

Page 3...
The Eastern Echo keeps you informed about the international lines and how it affects you.

Features
The Eastern Echo keeps you informed about the international lines and how it affects you.

Sports
Find out how the women's basketball team did in its debut as well as how the cross country teams fared at the regional meet. Details, page 7.

Dimensions
What will this holiday season? Perhaps the latest words from Sarah McLachlan and The Blind Boys of Alabama. If you're lucky.



Wednesday
September 17, 2003
Volume 109 Issue 13
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Eastern Echo

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Eagles deck cards: 38-14



At Ball State's Keith Schwabert gives chase, freshman quarterback Ken Bolster scrambles for a 14-yard run in the second quarter to give the Eagles a first down.

Sherrell rushes for 230 yards	Eastern Michigan 38	Ball State 14
By Steve Cochran Staff Writer	Ball State's Keith Schwabert gives chase, freshman quarterback Ken Bolster scrambles for a 14-yard run in the second quarter to give the Eagles a first down.	Ball State's Keith Schwabert gives chase, freshman quarterback Ken Bolster scrambles for a 14-yard run in the second quarter to give the Eagles a first down.

Cell phone numbers

New regulations eliminate hassle of switching companies
By David Spawen
Staff Writer

Michigan completes phone system for unemployment claims
By David Spawen
Staff Writer

Under new FCC regulations, cell phone companies must allow customers to transfer their phone numbers to different carriers.
By David Spawen
Staff Writer

Homecoming

Fall '03



More on Oozeball inside, Page 5. Plus, Homecoming Sports and Features.